

## The Sun

AND NEW YORK PRESS.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1918.

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man psychologists. The first fruits of her loss were a marked increase in the number of men voluntarily seeking enlistment in the army, the navy and the marine corps, and these men particularly desired to be sent to France at the earliest possible moment to avenge their comrades of the ill-fated vessel.

The high reputation German psychologists enjoyed before the war has been seriously impaired since it began. They have mistaken tenderness for weakness, chivalrous feeling for cowardice, and honesty for stupidity. Do they actually look on sorrow for the dead as a revelation of timidity?

## New Time on Easter.

The daylight saving bill as reported to the House provides that the clock shall be set ahead one hour on the last Sunday of March and not set back until the last Sunday of October. When this measure passed the Senate the changes were to be made in April and September respectively. Consequently the House proposes two months more of daylight saving than the Senate contemplated. The last Sunday of March this year is Easter, and the sun rises on that day at 5:46 o'clock.

It is the hope of the managers of the bill that the House will act on it this week or at the latest next week. There is no opposition to the measure and there should be no difficulty in obtaining consideration for its passage as early as possible in order that its purpose may be made known in all parts of the country. The impending change in clock time should be thoroughly advertised not only by the Government but by private corporations. The Government is peculiarly well equipped to carry the news to remote districts through the Post Office Department, the Weather Bureau and the railroads, and as soon as the President signs the bill the new rule should be promulgated for the information of all.

So important is it that the law should be put on the books immediately that the House might well adopt a special rule for prompt consideration of the bill and under this rule limit the time to be occupied by amateur astronomers in debate.

## Commissioner Enright's Chance.

Police Commissioner ENRIGHT lamented at a public dinner last week what he conceived to be the unfair attitude of the newspapers and an important part of the public toward his administration. He protested his honesty of purpose and defended the force under him, and he brought from those who heard him fair and impartial treatment.

Mr. ENRIGHT need have no fear concerning his treatment by his fellow citizens. He knows as well as everybody else knows that he entered office under most unfavorable conditions. He realizes that Mr. BROWN'S dismissal and the manner in which it was accomplished shocked and disturbed the city. He is fully informed as to the justifiable alarm all citizens felt when it seemed possible that the police force might again become the victim of departmental or municipal politics.

But Mr. ENRIGHT also knows that the police of New York will be judged by what it does and not by what it might do. Nothing is of slighter consequence to New Yorkers than the individual who directs police affairs from Headquarters. It is the results of his policies and of his acts that interest them. These results are recorded in the efficiency of the men on post and the men in the detective bureau. If these results be good, if citizens are safeguarded against criminals, the police administration will receive applause. If the citizens are not safeguarded the police administration will be condemned.

Already Commissioner ENRIGHT has undertaken important reforms in the organization of the force. He has abolished certain details and established others. There has been no adverse criticism of these changes; the public has accepted them as inevitable incidents of the new control. If they produce satisfactory effects, there will be no condemnation of their authors. If they do not work well, their immediate revision will be confidently awaited.

There is something pathetic about New York's longing to be permitted to take pride in its police force, and if Mr. ENRIGHT is the proper man for the job, he need have no misgivings about his future fame.

## The Growth of Slave Power in Austria.

The Ministerial crisis at Vienna becomes significant of conditions in the Austrian Empire not because of the resignation of Premier Von STRELA and his Cabinet, but because of the disclosures that it makes of the growth in strength of the elements in the nation which are opposed to the former controlling solid German majority and to the domination by Berlin of Austrian politics.

The appointment of Dr. VON STRELA as Premier was at the best a makeshift measure. The wonder is that he has held out so long as he has. But he showed the skill of a trained bureaucrat in dealing with conditions. Though he was forced to make frequent changes in the personnel of his Cabinet he succeeded in maintaining a more or less uniform body for the administration of the different bureaus or departments, of which as Premier he was the head. He displayed, too, good management in handling the recent strikes by meeting the strikers half way, promising economic and military reforms and expressing a desire, in which he said he was supported by the Emperor, for a speedy ending of the war. That his

Cabinet was able to survive so long and that there was no really strong man in sight to take his place are obviously the reasons why Emperor CHARLES has refused to accept his resignation.

The political conditions that confronted Dr. VON STRELA were similar to those with which his predecessor, Count CLAM-MARTIN, struggled. The Poles, who had long been a more or less dependable factor in the administration plan, adhered to the Slavic bloc, and, as in the present case, opposed the war budget. The move was the first break in almost twenty years from the Germanic party, and it was followed with intense interest at Berlin. This opposition has since grown, strengthened by a united Slavic party, a following of the Latins in the south and the addition of some unidentified factions from all parts of the empire, until now it controls at least fifty more votes in the lower house of the Austrian Parliament than the Administration party.

The Poles have not been slow in taking advantage of the power that they can wield. They are fighting in Austria as well as in Russia for recognition as a nation. They saw through Berlin's plans for establishing a Polish kingdom as a Prussian vassal State, and they have so far been able to defeat the scheme. They have at the same time strengthened the Slavic position in the empire until the Slavs have become a factor to be reckoned with, not only after the war but in the negotiations that will bring the war to an end.

It is the united voice of these long suppressed races of Austria that is heard in the constantly recurring demands for peace. These people have no sympathy with the schemes of Pan-Germanism or Prussian domination of Central Europe. Berlin knows this, knows, too, that the difficulty of making Austria a subservient State which will follow Germany's dictation is increased, and it has every reason to dread and to fear this unmistakable growth of the Austrian Slav in power and influence.

## Consolidating the City's Engineering Bureau.

President BARCKNA of The Bronx has combined the engineering staffs of the highways and sewers bureaus in his borough and by the consolidation expects to save \$35,000 a year in salaries and expenses. He has set an example of practical economy that every other Borough President and the city administration itself might profitably follow.

An ideal organization for city government would have but one engineering department, with an efficient executive at its head and competent aids in charge of the various departments into which its work would naturally divide itself. A sewer expert would have supervision of the drainage system of the whole city; an authority on construction would direct all building operations; a bridge constructor of the first class would take care of the bridges. Under this form of organization men could be shifted from one project to another as their services were needed, supplies could be bought in great quantities and under favorable conditions and numerous substantial savings might be made.

If such an ideal situation is ever brought about in New York it will have its beginnings in a consolidation of the kind President BARCKNA has made. The advantages of centralization are so apparent that there can be no opposition to it unless that opposition comes from interested motives, and these are of constantly decreasing potency in the management of municipal affairs.

## Navel Oranges.

When, last month, we spoke the truth concerning the navel orange, the least worthy of citrus breakfast foods, we knew that we invited the wrath of the native sons who have found in the golden fruit more treasure than the auriferous mines of their celebrated States ever will produce. We have not been disappointed. Denunciation, ridicule, explanation have been uttered against us, and every effort has been made to convert us to advocacy of that handsome impostor which possesses "a remarkable development of adventitious cells which at the apex of the orange give the fruit an umbilical mark."

Chief among the defenders of the navel orange have naturally and properly been the able and enterprising business men who supply it to the Eastern market. These gentlemen have long commanded and received our admiration. They have developed cooperation in raising, grading and selling the product of their great orchards; they maintain a high standard of integrity in their trade, and they have unquestionably brought their wares to the doorway of every home. We should be glad to print their letter concerning the navel orange, but it is too long; it is sufficient to say of it that it is reasonable, courteous and makes out the best possible case for the navel orange. It is a fact, as they point out in this communication, that even the most skillful packing and the closest inspection cannot prevent some oranges damaged in transit from getting on the market, and it would be unfair to judge the average by these.

Nor would we have our buoyant California friends believe that we regard the navel orange as utterly to be condemned. It is not in the same class with fattened oysters, which are an abomination to the discriminating. It does not deserve complete ostracism. There are persons who even choose it for the convenience

with which it may be eaten, and the absence of seeds and other inconsequential circumstances. If it were entirely worthless, not even the high business capacity and the intelligent enterprise that have been devoted to improving its quality and providing for its distribution in attractive packages could have won for it the commanding place it has in the fruit stalls of scores of thousands of towns far distant from the orchards in which it grows.

But we maintain that in comparison with certain small, thin skinned oranges the navel must take a back seat. Unfortunately, these do not stand packing and are poor travelers. They seldom appear on the shelves of the fruiterers. The initiate longs for them in vain; and it will comfort our California friends to remember, as their well lined pockets remind them, that this long does not close the lips against the navel orange, but actually contributes to its consumption; for man, having learned how supremely good an orange may be, is thereby enlightened as to the excellence of all the interesting citrus family.

## The Unsinkable Ship.

We trust that Mr. WILLIAM L. SAUNDERS'S confidence in the unsinkable quality of a vessel equipped with a large number of airtight receptacles of small dimensions is not misplaced. The theory of buoyancy on which this principle of ship protection rests is plausible. But the application of the system to one, or a dozen, or a hundred vessels in no way relieves the United States of its obligation to speed up its shipbuilding programme.

The transport on which these buoyancy chambers have been installed is an experiment. She may never encounter a submarine; if she does the protection expected from this device may not meet the full hopes of its designers. But if the United States can build there will be a bridge between this country and Europe that no fleet of submarines the Germans are capable of launching can destroy. Here and there the undersea commanders may succeed in sinking a vessel; occasionally they may score a victory; but if we do our full duty in the steel mills and in the shipyards their successes will not impair the service we shall establish to carry our armies to France and our goods to the Allies.

An unsinkable ship, by all means, if it is within the bounds of human achievement; but sinkable or unsinkable, ships and more ships!

A new device, it is said, will "bottle up" the German submarines. Considering the structure of the beasts this remedy does not at first thought suggest as pleasant results as might be effected by uncorking them.

"Guides to Paris" may be relied upon to publish as soon as tourist travel is resumed an authentic list of those ninety-eight cafés barred to American soldiers not by the café proprietors but by the American Provost Marshal in France.

Pétrégar householders complain that as the Bolsheviks grow more numerous they cannot distinguish between the common variety of burglar when they make domiciliary searches. Aside from social embarrassment it seems to make no difference in results whether the visitors are guards or burglars.

"Tallies to stop making cuffs on trousers." It was not so many years ago that young men began to turn up the bottoms of their trousers in fair and foul weather, even, as they were frequently obliged to explain, when it rained. The tallies, however, took the hint and made permanent "cuffs" on trousers, but these cuffs had again to be turned up when there was actual danger to their immaculateness from rain or mud. Then let man admit frankly and once for all that he wore trouser cuffs solely for ornamentation, and stop making cuffs on his trousers.

Now that HENRY FORD is directing all his energy to the production of war munitions he may fulfil his ambition to get those boys out of the trenches by Christmas.

The honest man has been found. He is a waiter in the Pullman car service and stoutly argues that "a small addition" to the price of berth and meals be added and transferred to the pay envelopes of waiters and porters in Pullman cars. This addition to the cost of travel is to be in place of tips which a Washington commission, committee, bureau, director or administrator seeks to abolish. The witness thinks that "about 15 cents" added to the cost of each berth would enable the travelling public to pay fair wages to porters and waiters. What the travelling public would think about it could not be so mildly expressed.

In the remote days when a quick German victory seemed possible, how silent were the now vociferous advocates of a negotiated peace!

Night, Camp Wadsworth.

The Carolina night has sphered the sky Extravagant with stars and dreams. The sound of water from a shower bath pavilion Drips silver through the dark— A lyric on a wooden floor!

Inside the tent the sleeping bundles stir. Another soldier, late from town wayfarer, Prepares his bunk in humming alacrity. He grips his Red Cross sweater in his left hand.

And pulls it on a parcel for a pillow case— The sweater kept by some maid in New York.

He wonders if she's dancing late to-night. He crawls in bed; the tent is dark, yet companionable With friendly hum of murmuring sleepers.

And sees Through little holes burned in the canvas wall, Where chimney sparks dance down and down. The moonlight filters magically, Through each hole shines a gleaming ray That strikes the farther wall and leaves a shadow.

What luxury is this! To go to bed With little stars around your head.

CHARLES DRYDEN.

## KING ALCOHOL AT WORK.

Change of Conditions in the Fight for Prohibition.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your correspondent at Livingston Manor pays a mighty well deserved compliment to your new famous editorial article addressed to "The Moderate Drinker," but won't this Sir permit just one little ray of light to rest upon a statement in his letter?

We know that the excessive drinker has a larger family than any other class, and the recent draft for the army, showing only 10 per cent. rejected in prohibition because of physical unfitness as high as 55 per cent. in some of the alcohol saturated centres, speaks plainly as to the effect on contemporary posterity of the prohibition.

Kansas had 23.5 per cent. of her draft rejected for physical unfitness, not 10 per cent. Maine, over half a century prohibition, had 42.5 per cent. of her draft rejected, the highest percentage of "physically unfit" in the nation with the single exception of the sister prohibition State Vermont, where 42.5 per cent. were cast out as "physically unfit." No State rejected 55 per cent.

The figures are from the report of Major-General Enoch H. Crowder, Provost Marshal-General of the United States.

Introducing William J. Bryan at the Tremont Temple national prohibition ratification meeting in Boston Friday night, January 25, the chairman, the Hon. John L. Bates, said as reported by the Boston Daily Globe of January 26: "Have you noticed what a change has come over the conditions under which this fight is now being waged? \* \* \* Years ago the prohibitionist had to prove everything he said." E. R. ROCKLAND, Me., February 9.

## An Unreconstructed Moderate Drinker.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A few weeks ago THE SUN addressed an editorial article to the "Moderate Drinker," pleading with him to forego his favorite tipple in order to save his weaker brother. I read this several times, being deeply impressed with its significance and purpose.